

SOIL CONSERVATION DIVISION[27]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 161A.71(3)“a,” the Division of Soil Conservation hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 11, “Conservation Practices Revolving Loan Fund,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments conform the rules to statutory changes made in 2013 Iowa Acts, House File 458, effective July 1, 2013. The amendments remove the prohibition against funding a conservation practice by using both a conservation practices loan and cost share funds. The amendments also increase the maximum amount that can be loaned from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Any interested persons may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before May 7, 2013. Written comments should be addressed to Margaret Thomson, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Wallace State Office Building, 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Comments may be submitted by fax to (515)281-6236 or by e-mail to Margaret.Thomson@IowaAgriculture.gov.

These proposed amendments are subject to the Division’s general waiver provisions.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no adverse impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement 2013 Iowa Acts, House File 458, section 1.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 11.23(3) as follows:

11.23(3) *Use of the loan.* Loan funds shall be used only to pay the total eligible cost of installing permanent soil and water conservation practices listed in 27—subrule 10.82(2) of the Iowa financial incentive program for soil erosion control. District commissioners may designate which soil and water conservation practices will be eligible for loans in their district. The selected practices must be from the state-approved practices contained in rule 27—10.82(161A). The general conditions contained in rule 27—10.81(161A) and the specifications contained in rule 27—10.84(161A) shall apply to the district-designated practices. Revolving loan funds and public cost-sharing funds ~~shall not~~ may be used in combination for funding a particular soil and water conservation practice.

ITEM 2. Amend subrules 11.27(2) and 11.27(3) as follows:

11.27(2) *Maximum loan.* The maximum loan that a landowner may receive in one year pursuant to this program shall not exceed ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000.

11.27(3) *Number of loans.* There will be no limit to the number of loans an applicant can receive, except that an applicant shall be eligible for no more than ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 in loans outstanding at any time under this program. Each approved application will be handled as a new loan.